How to Tune Your Guitar

Guitar Strings and Tuning Your Guitar

The thinnest guitar string is called the high or top string because it is the highest sounding string even though it is physically lower when the guitar is being held. It has a higher pitch than the other strings, which is why it is called the high E. Conversely, the thickest string is the low string because it has the lowest sound.

You MUST learn the names of your guitar strings if you want to take the guitar to the next level. From the thickest to the thinnest it is: E (6th string), A (5th string), D (4th string), G (3rd string), B (2nd string), E (1st string). You'll need to know this to properly use a guitar tuner or keyboard

to tune your guitar.

An easy way to remember the names of the strings from low to high is:

***E**ddie*

***A**te*

***D**ynamite*

***G**ood*

***B**ye*

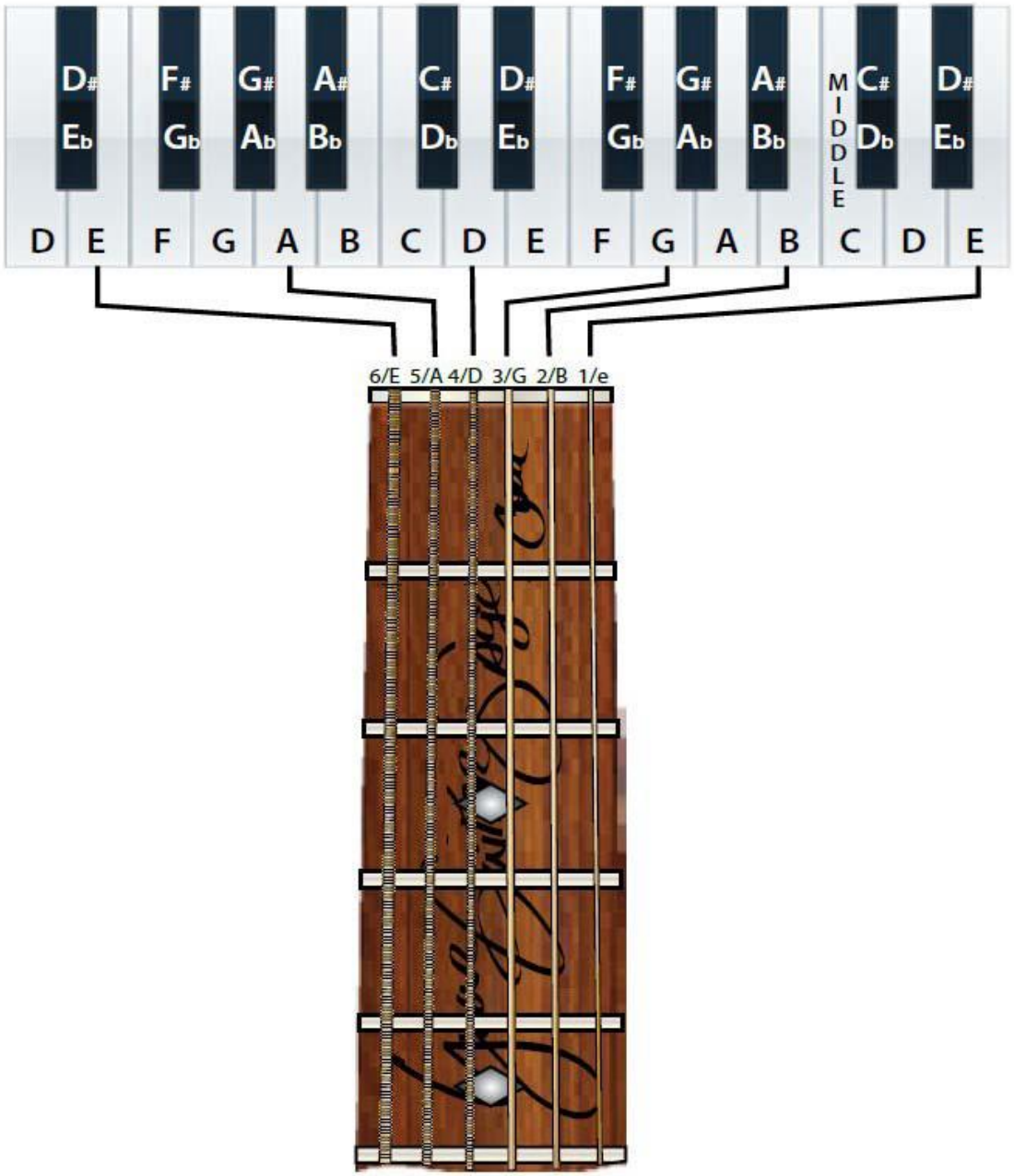
***E**ddie*

Silly, I know! But you won't forget it!

When a guitar string is out of pitch, it will either be sharp (#), or flat (b). If a string is flat, then it's lower than our desired pitch and would need to be tightened in order to sharpen the pitch. If a string is sharp, then it's higher than our desired pitch and would need to be loosened in order to flatten the pitch.

So when you turn your tuning pegs and the pitch lowers, you are flattening the pitch of the string. When you turn your tuning pegs and the pitch raises, you are sharpening the pitch of the string.

Tuning Your Guitar to Piano or Keyboard



1. Find middle “C” on the piano
2. Go 1 octave lower than that “C” and play the “A”, two white keys to the left.
3. Strike the “A” on the piano and hold down the sustain pedal while you hit your “A” string.

4. To play the low “E”, play the “E” that’s 3 white keys to the left.
5. For the remaining strings D, G, B and E, find the notes according to the diagram below.